OCA 87-5944 3 December 1987

NOTE FOR: The Director.

FROM:

Dave Grie

SUBJECT:

Worldwide Briefing

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As Bob Gates noted at staff meeting, Director Casey gave a classified worldwide briefing each January to the Intelligence Committees, Appropriations Defense Subcommittees and, in some years, Armed Services and Foreign Affairs Committees of the House and Senate. These briefings contained the most recent analytical findings and were focused on world hot spots, such as Afghanistan, Nicaragua, Angola, Iran and the Soviet Union. In the early 1980's, National Intelligence Officers assisted the Director; more recently, the Director gave the briefings himself. In 1985 he gave an unclassified briefing which was later distributed fairly widely on the Hill.

Although initially the briefings attracted interest, the audience steadily declined until in 1986 more than half of the committees mentioned above did not extend invitations. No briefings were given in 1987.

I recommend against offering a worldwide briefing this year unless we receive invitations that we find hard to refuse. Preparation and delivery of such a briefing is a major undertaking requiring a major investment of time. The payoff is not sufficient to justify such an effort.



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